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FOR KISSINGER AND KLEIN
USIA FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION REPORT NO. 11, FEBRUARY 12, 1973
SUMMARY

SOME SUNDAY PAPERS HAD THE NEWS THAT MR. KISSINGER HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY CHAIRMAN MAO. REUTER REPORTED THAT WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN PEKING NOW THOUGHT IT "EXTREMELY LIKELY" THAT THERE WOULD BE AN AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN CHINA BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. MOSCOW TASS REPORTED THAT "THE NATURE OF THE QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IS NOT REVEALED BUT, AS THE CHINESE NEWS AGENCY SAYS, IT WAS 'AN OPEN CONVERSATION ON A WIDE RANGE OF QUESTIONS AND IT WAS HELD IN AN EASY ATMOSPHERE.'"

LONDON

REUTER REPORTED FROM PEKING ON SUNDAY THAT "DIPLOMATS IN THE CHINESE CAPITAL WERE STUNNED AND EXCITED" AT THE NEWS OF THE MAO-KISSINGER TALK. IT QUOTED WESTERN ENVOYS AS SAYING IT WAS NOW "EXTREMELY LIKELY" THAT THERE WOULD BE AN AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN PEKING BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR, AND THAT FULL-SCALE RELATIONS MIGHT COME SOONER THAN EXPECTED.

THE CONSERVATIVE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH CARRIED A REPORT FROM PEKING BY CLARE HOLLINGWORTH THAT "ACCORDING TO MY DIPLOMATIC INFORMANT, MR. CHOI EN-LAI--WHO OBVIOUSLY ENJOYS ARGUMENTS WITH SOMEONE OF DR. KISSINGER'S INTELLECTUAL LEVEL--WILL AGREE TO SOME FORMULAE FOR THE PARIS CONFERENCE BEFORE THE AMERICAN TEAM LEAVES PEKING. "THE AMERICANS ARE UNDERSTOOD TO BE WILLING TO SEE PRESIDENT THIEU AND HIS REGIME IN SOUTH VIETNAM DISAPPEAR 'AFTER A DECENT INTERVAL.' MEANWHILE, THE CHINESE ARE ANXIOUS THAT THE TRUCE COMMISSION EFFECTIVELY PREVENT ANY BIG ATTACKS BY EITHER SIDE. "THE CHINESE ACTIVELY OPPOSE THE BRITISH AND FRENCH PROPOSAL THAT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE DR. KURT WALDEHIM, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE U.N. THEY WOULD PREFER A JOINT CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE TWO ACTIVE COMBATANTS, THE U.S. AND NORTH VIETNAM.

"FAR MORE IMPORTANT IN BOTH CHINESE AND AMERICAN EYES ARE THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE GRADUAL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. IT IS EXPECTED THAT AN AMERICAN TRADE MISSION WILL OPEN IN PEKING BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR."

THE INDEPENDENT SUNDAY OBSERVER VIEWED THE PEKING VISIT IN THE LIGHT OF BRITISH DEALINGS WITH CHINA: "THE SALE OF 200 HARRIERS (VERTICAL TAKE-OFF FIGHTERS) TO CHINA WOULD LEAVE COCOM IN FRAGMENTS....BUT ALMOST CERTAINLY BRITAIN WILL CONSOLE HERSELF FOR THE LOSS OF A 200 MILLION POUND ORDER BY TRYING TO OVERHAUL--WHICH MEANS ENFEERLE--THIS ELDERLY PIECE OF COLD-WAR MACHINERY.

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"THERE REMAINS THE ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. OFFICIALLY, WASHINGTON AFFECTS TO KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE PROSPECT OF CHINESE HARRIER, BUT FOR THE AMERICANS TWO CONSIDERATIONS ARISE.

"ONE IS THE NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA, NOW BEING DEEPEENED BY DR. KISSINGER'S SECOND VISIT TO PEKING. IT CAN BE ARGUED THAT AMERICA WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO ANNOY CHINA BY VETOING THIS SALE IN COCOM... THAT THE ODIUM WOULD DESCEND EXCLUSIVELY ON BRITAIN, LEAVING SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS UNSCATHED, AND THAT IT IS IN THE AMERICAN INTEREST TO MAINTAIN SOME SORT OF MILITARY BALANCE IN THE SINO-SOVIET CONFRONTATION, ESPECIALLY IF FORCE REDUCTION TALKS IN EUROPE ARE TO RELEASE SOVIET ARMIES FOR SERVICE ON THE EASTERN BORDERS.

"THE OTHER CONSIDERATION, POINTING THE OTHER WAY, IS THAT THE AMERICANS USE THE HARRIER THEMSELVES, AND THAT THE SERVICE DEPARTMENTS WOULD NOT TOLERATE THE ARMING OF A POTENTIAL ENEMY WITH THE SAME AIRCRAFT."

THE INDEPENDENT-CONSERVATIVE SUNDAY TIMES CARRIED AN ARTICLE BY MURRAY SAYLE MAINTAINING THAT THE COMING PARIS TALKS "MAY BE THE LAST CHANCE OF COMPELLING THE WARRING PARTIES TO HONOR THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT." HE SAID THE ONLY THING NO ONE DISPUTES IS THAT THE WAR GOES ON, AND ADDED:

"ARMED STRUGGLE CANNOT BE CARRIED ON VERY LONG ANYWHERE IN VIETNAM WITHOUT OUTSIDE HELP. SOUTH VIETNAM'S ECONOMY CANNOT PRODUCE A MOUSETRAP, LET ALONE ARTILLERY AMMUNITION. NORTH VIETNAM CANNOT MAINTAIN ITS PRESENCE IN THE SOUTH WITH ALL THE NECESSARY WHEELED TRANSPORT OR EVEN FEEL SECURE AGAINST ATTACKS BY THIEU'S MECHANIZED ARMY WITHOUT OUTSIDE HELP--AND IT HAS A BOMBED-OUT ECONOMY TO REBUILD.

"THE AMERICANS BADLY WANT THIEU TO CONDUCT ELECTIONS VERY SOON--WHILE HE HAS A CHANCE OF WINNING--BECAUSE THE DEMONSTRATION THAT THE COMMUNISTS DO NOT COMMAND A MAJORITY IN THE SOUTH WOULD GO SOME WAY TO JUSTIFY, AT LEAST IN THEIR OWN EYES, THE OTHERWISE ABSURD WAR THEY HAVE CONDUCTED HERE."

SAYLE SAID THAT "WHOEVER COUNTS THE VOTES, THE COMMUNISTS WOULD BE LUCKY TO GET 20 PERCENT OF THEM."

WEST BERLIN

INDEPENDENT TAGESSPIEGEL ON SUNDAY REPORTED THAT MR. KISSINGER HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY CHAIRMAN MAO.

PRO-SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SPANDAUER VOLKSBLATT ASSERTED SUNDAY THAT "KISSINGER'S PEKING TALKS AND THE APPREANCE OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVES AND SAILORS IN HANOI AND HAIPHONG ARE EVIDENCE OF ONE OF THE GREATEST POLITICAL CHANGES OF THE WANING 20TH CENTURY."

THE PAPER SAID MR. KISSINGER WAS SEEKING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH "THE WORLD POWER OF TOMORROW WHICH HAS ALL MAJOR SOVIE

T CITIES WITHIN RANGE OF ITS NUCLEAR WEAPONS."

ASSUMING THAT CHINA'S CONDITION FOR NORMALIZATION WAS U.S. MILITARY WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN AREA, IT STATED THAT SUCH WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE "MERELY A U.S. 'MILITARY DISINVOLVEMENT' WHICH ONE DAY WILL PRESUMABLY AFFECT TAIWAN AND JAPAN." IT ASSERTED

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THAT PEKING WANTED TO SEE ALL FOREIGN MILITARY BASES ELIMINATED FROM EAST ASIA, BUT THAT THE U.S. WANTS ITS ECONOMIC INFLUENCE TO BE GOVERNED ONLY BY "THOSE LIMITS WHICH RESULT AUTOMATICALLY FROM THE COLLABORATION OF COMMUNIST AND CAPITALIST STATES. ECONOMIC COOPERATION WILL PROCEED AT THE SAME PACE AS NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS."

TOKYO

KYODO NEWS SERVICE CITED "GOVERNMENT SOURCES" AS SAYING ON SATURDAY THAT PREMIER TANAKA TOLD KURT WALDHEIM IN TOKYO ON WEDNESDAY THAT "JAPAN WOULD BE READY TO CONTRIBUTE 50 MILLION DOLLARS TO A PLANNED U.N. RELIEF AID TO INDOCHINA."

BANGKOK

DOMESTIC RADIO REPORTED THAT DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER CHARTCHAI TOLD THE PRESS ON SATURDAY THAT THE THAI AMBASSADOR TO LAOS HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED "TO INFORM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT THAT THAILAND IS READY TO GIVE ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THAT COUNTRY" IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE "TO ALL WAR-TORN INDOCHINESE COUNTRIES...IN THEIR RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS."

SAIGON

PAPERS REPORTED PROSPECTS FOR U.S. RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE. THOI DAI MIEN NAM HEADLINED, "PROSPECTIVE U.S. AID TO NORTH BEING COMPLICATED BY OPPOSITION IN U.S. CONGRESS." PAPERS NOTED SECRETARY ROGERS' HOPE THAT CONGRESS WOULD HELP REESTABLISH PEACE IN INDOCHINA. PRO-GOVERNMENT TIN SONG REPORTED THAT ON WEDNESDAY, GVN INFORMATION CHIEF HOANG DUC NHA TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THE U.S. APPEARED TO WANT TO USE ECONOMIC AID IN THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DRV IN ORDER TO DEVELOP INFLUENCE WITH THE NORTH VIETNAMESE.

PEKING

NCNA'S ENGLISH SERVICE REPORTED SATURDAY NIGHT THAT CHAIRMAN MAO AND DR. KISSINGER HAD "HAD A FRANK AND WIDE-RANGING CONVERSATION IN AN UNCONSTRAINED ATMOSPHERE." IN AN EARLIER DISPATCH IT NOTED THAT THE CHOU-KISSINGER TALKS HAD CONTINUED, AND THAT MR. KLEIN HAD MET WITH HSINHUA NEWS AGENCY AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

MOSCOW

TASS REPORTED ON SUNDAY FROM PEKING THAT MR. KISSINGER HAD SPOKEN FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS WITH CHAIRMAN MAO AND HAD "A LENGTHY CONVERSATION" WITH PREMIER CHOU. IT ADDED, "THE NATURE OF THE QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IS NOT REVEALED BUT, AS THE CHINESE NEWS AGENCY SAYS, IT WAS 'AN OPEN CONVERSATION ON A WIDE RANGE OF QUESTIONS AND IT WAS HELD IN AN EASY ATMOSPHERE.'" ITEM USINFO WASHDC

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